.We have received by mail from the Hon. JOSHUA R. Giddings, of Ohio, a copy of a long letter, which has already appeared in some of the Ohio papers, on the subject of the Address of the Hon. TRUMAN SMITH to the Public, published in this paper some weeks ago. To so much of the address of the latter as arraigned Mr. Giddings's conduct in the House as the Representative of his constituents we very willingly publish the reply of that gentleman, as subjoined. As for the residue of his letter, we do not perceive any advantage that can accrue to Mr. GIDBINGS or to the Public, by allowing to be repeated in our columns, now that the election and its excitements are over, the arguments for or against the several candidates for the Presidency, or the criminations and recriminations of their respective supporters. Let by-gones be by-gones.

Extract from Mr. Giddings's reply to Mr. Smith. "You assail me in a manner quite unusual among gentlemen occupying the stations which we fill. You say that you have caused the Journal of the House of Representatives to be searched in order to determine the number of times during the late session which I failed to answer to my name on the call of the yeas and nays. This is, I believe, the first time that ever a member of Congress acknowledged himself to have entered upon such a work. For the dignity of the body to which we belong I hope it may be the last. You little know the character of the people to whom these imputations are addressed. Can you imagine yourself to have been constituted my overseer? Has it come to this, that you consider yourself clothed with supervisory powers over the Representative of seventy thousand of the sovereign people of our gallant jority in the Philadelphia Convention, they had it State Have they, sir, requested you to sit in judgment on in their power to nominate whomsoever they the habits of their Congressional agent? Had you referred pleased; yet they not only submitted to the nomito my official acts, to my votes, or to my political opinions, I nation of a Southern man and a large slaveholder, they are the proper subjects of examination. But to them you take no exception, while you attempt to charge me with inattention to my public duties. Permit me to say, sir, that labors by giving the old planter of Louisiana ninetythere are members of that body whom my constituents would be willing to excuse if they never appeared in their seats on any occasion.

"I think you cannot be ignorant that I have long regarded the practice, so common in the House of Representatives, of frequently calling the yeas and nays as an unnecessary waste of time, and disreputable to that body. When they are called on adjournments and en the "calls of the House," and for suspending the rules, I usually pay no attention to them, but occupy my time in other business. We are told that in the early days of the republic they were seldom called more than six or eight times in a session. You say they were called three hundred and thirty-eight times during the late session. Each call occupies about twenty minutes. One hundred and twelve hours were thus occupied. Our daily sittings would average less than four hours, and, including Sabbaths, more But, supposing twenty of those calls were really proper, yet at least one-ninth part of the whole session must have been wasted. And you complain that I did not waste my time with the others. To discourage this practice, I have refused some importance. But these attempts on my part to discourage what I have long regarded an evil you have endeavored to torture into evidence that I was absent from my seat. was often told that evil-disposed persons would make such an attempt to misrepresent me to my constituents. I uniformly answered that I represented a constituency too intelligent to be affected by acts of such a character.

"You say that you are always on hand (except for special reasons) prepared to give your vote. It is not my business to call you to account on that subject. But it always looks suspicious to see a man making himself the trumpeter of his own merits. I have not the Journal of the House of Representatives before me, nor can I get it short of Washington, but I will hazard the opinion that you were absent during the late session a far greater number of days than I was. You were election of General Taylor. And you were also in attendance matize me, and to hold yourself up as a pattern of official inabsent yourself on political errands, but you were instrumental in getting others to leave Congress for the same purpose. If you, through the National Intelligencer, will deny that you, as Chairman of the Whig Executive Committee, paid the expenses of other members of Congress who were absent from their seats for political purposes to the amount of five times the number of days that I was, I will endeavor to show your error by making out an account current for you, showing how many days' expenses you paid to each member who stumped it for General Taylor during the session. Yet you seem to regard my absence at Buffalo and Massachusetts as a derilection of duty. It is true that I went to Massachusetts, and was absent seven or eight days.' It is also true that in 1846 I went to Maine at your request, and was absent twice as long as I was in Massachusetts, promulgating the same docthey could not be wrong in 1848. Truth, like its Divine Author, is immutable. If my doctrines were correct in Maine, they could not have been erroneous in Massachusetts. But I think I shall be perfectly safe in saying that the speeches in favor of General Taylor in the House of Representatives, made for the purpose of promoting his election, occupied the whole House more days than I was absent both at Massachusetts and at Buffalo. This would show a loss to the nation of two hundred and twenty-eight times greater than that occasioned by my absence. Again, nearly one-half of the Whig members of Congress attended the Convention at Philadelphia which nominated General Taylor. They were absent about the same length of time that I was at Buffalo; and nearly the same proportion of the Democratic members were in attendance at the Baltimore Convention which nominated General Cass. This will show an additional loss of nearly one hun- It has been found necessary to have new side levers. The dred times greater than that occasioned by my absence. For went in strict accordance with the long-established usage pre-passengers for Bremen had their passage paid from Southamp-solling both in the Sanate and in the House. I did so be-ton via London to Bremen by the English steamers. vailing both in the Senste and in the House. I did so believing that I could do more for my country and for mankind its energies to oppose the practices and crimes to which I have referred, and to which I will hereafter call your attention. I may have erred in complying with their request; if so, you are not the man to reprove me."

INTERESTING CASE. -In Cumberland county (Pa.) las week was tried the case of Catharine Oliver and others, of the State of Maryland, against Daniel Kaufman, of Cumberland

State of Maryland, against Daniel Kaulman, of Cumbertand county, for aiding the escape and harboring thirteen slaves, claimed as the property of the plaintiffs.

A great number of witnesses were produced by the plaintiffs' counsel, who proved that the slaves were brought on the evening of the 24th of October, 1847, to the barn of Kaulman, and, after remaining there part of the night, were taken in his wagon across the Susquehanna river. Several witnesses were called, who were immediate neighbors of Kaulman, and obstinately refused to answer any questions or inquiries prowere called, who were immediate neighbors of Kaufman, and obstinately refused to answer any questions or inquiries propounded by the court or counsel. Being apparently determined to keep silent, they were given into the custody of the eheriff and conveyed to jail. But, after remaining there a short time, they concluded it was better to come forward and give evidence, and accordingly did so in a very humble manner. The defendant's counsel took the ground that a case of this kind did not come under the jurisdiction of this court. Able and lengthy speeches were made by the counsel on both sides, and the judge's charge, though brief, was to the point. The jury retired, and, after being out some eighteen hours, returned a verdict of \$2,000 damages for the plaintiffs.

The Greensburg Point Lighthouse, at the entrance of An-

THE NORTH AND SOUTH STANDING TOGETHER.

FROM THE SAVANNAH REPUBLICAN. THE NORTHERN VOTE.-ZACHARY TAYLOR IS President elect of the United States. He was nominated and has been run on broad national grounds having for his platform the constitution, his object the greatest good of the greatest number of the Ame rican people, and his constituency the moderate and conservative men of the country. He is in debted to no particular section or locality for hi success, having been supported with the same zeal and unanimity in the North, the East, the South, and the West. Nor has he received the entire vote of either section in the above-named divisions. In the South, for example, he gets Maryland and loses Virginia; North Carolina and loses South Carolina; Georgia and loses Alabama; Florida and loses Mississippi ; Louisiana and loses Texas ; Tennessee and loses Arkansas ; Kentucky and loses Missouri. The same is true at the East and the North. Reckoning Delaware with the free States, he gets eight out of the sixteen Northern and Eastern States. It appears, therefore, that Gen. TAYLOR has been supported by all sections of the country. Indebted to no particular local influence for his success, but deriving efficient support from all parts of the Union, and obtaining a majority of the electoral votes both North and South of Mason and Dixon's line, he is as emphatically the President of the Nation as he was the candidate of the People. He received sixty-six electoral votes in the

being a majority in both divisions.

But the object of this article was to express our approbation of the course which the North has pursued in this election. Our friends in that section have conducted themselves nobly, and we congratulate the whole country, and especially the friends of union and harmony, upon the magnanimity with which they have acted. Being largely in the mashould have felt no disposition to reply. My opinions and public scts have not altogether escaped public scrutiny, and tion had been made, they entered upon the canvass with a cheerfulness and determination worthy of all commendation, and have crowned their patriotic seven electoral votes. In all this we see an evidence of attachment to the Union, a desire to restore peace and harmony in the councils of the nation, and a devotion to the country, the whole country, and nothing but the country, which cannot but productive of the most beneficial results. The nion must be preserved! And the North, in her generous support of Gen. TAYLOR, and the South, her equally zealous support of Mr. FILLMORE, have each given a solemn pledge to the nation and to the world that IT SHALL BE DONE!

South, and ninety-seven in the Northern States,

We congratulate the country, therefore, and the friends of rational liberty and republicanism every where, upon these auspicious indications. We have much to make us rejoice. From a small and feeble colony, we have rapidly grown into gigantic nanhood; and now that we have reached that point than one month's time was wasted in this useless ceremony. in civilization and advancement when we are prepared to enjoy fully the blessings of a free constitution and equal laws, shall we dash our bright prospects to the earth? We answer emphatically, No! We say, " Union now and forever!" for unto answer to my name in all cases except such as I deemed of der the Union we are what we are. Esto perpetua!

WHIG CELEBRATION AT MOBILE.

The Whigs of Mobile (Ala.) had a magnificent elebration on the night of the 20th instant, in honor of the election of TAYLOR and FILLMORE. It is thus described in the "Register," a Democratic paper: "The Whig Jubilee came off in fine style on Monday night

All that burning tar barrels, brilliant iliuminations, soaring rockets, Chinese crackers, and Bengola lights could contribute to the splendor of the occasion, was put in requisition. At an early hour the principal streets were filled with a dense and turid smoke, that made our usually clear atmosphere not unlike that of the Iron City, Pittsburg. Through this uncomparation is the first was made our way descripted to see as much fortable 'fog' we made our way, determined to see as much of 'the show' as was 'visible to the naked eye.' The processession a far greater number of days than I was. You were frequently gone, as was said, to raise funds to promote the Ready Club, a large number of persons on horseback, several election of General Taylor. And you were also in attendance carriages, a great many cars and wagons, and an innumerable at the Philadelphia Convention. But in this attempt to stigmatize me, and to hold yourself up as a pattern of official in-dustry, you have provoked scrutiny. You were not only about yourself on religious many superior control of the arts and trades were repre-sented in costume, with the emblems and implements of their occupation. The butchers had a car decorated like a stall, with many superior control of the arts and trades were reprenext morning found ready sale in market. A blacksmith's shop, with a glowing furnace and its occupants at work hamsnop, with a glowing lurnace and its occupants at work ham-mering the heated iron, indicated the place in the procession of the Knights of the Anvil. The disciples of Faust and Franklin had a printing press busily engaged in striking off an ode for the occasion, which was distributed through the crowd. But the most picturesque and beautiful object presented was a ministure steamboat, brilliantly painted and decorated, with its wheels in constant region. wheels in constant motion, turned not by a 'real engine,' but by an Ethiopean arm inside. Many of the other crafts and 'callings' had similar representations, but we cannot under-take to describe them all. In the way of illuminated transpaencies, there was quite an extensive array. A large number of houses in the city were brilliantly illuminated. The Courthouse was a blaze of candles, and the portico in front was covered by a large transparent painting representing General Taylon and 'Old Whitey' on their way to the White House. long as I was in Massachusetts, promulgating the same doc-trines. You then approved of my absence, and paid my ex-penses. If the doctrines I promulgated were right in 1846, and orderly manner. Shouts for 'Old Zack' rent the air: the stevedores and M. A. Ms. made the night musical with Rough and Ready melodies; and the 'deep-mouthed cannon' filled the welkin with its reverberations.

OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.

THE HERMANN STEAMSHIPS .- The accident to the engine of this steamer will detain her at Southampton until the middle of December. The damage to her machinery oc-curred on the 29th of October, when the cross-tail of the arboard engine, which connects the side levers, and to which the connecting-rod working the crank is attached, gave way. The shock acting upon the side levers, cracked them, and the The shock acting upon the side levers, cracaed users, and the larboard engine became unserviceable. The remainder of the voyage, 1,200 miles, was performed with one engine, aided by the sails, in about six and a half days, and the Hermann arrived off Cowes about half past eight o'clock P. M. on the 5th instant, having made the run in about sixteen days. voyage to Bremen has been abandoned, and the Hermann's those members you have no word of reproof. You were one of them. I went to Massachusetts and to Buffalo at the request and by advice of many worthy and patriotic friends. I

MOVEMENT OF STEAMSHIPS .- Three first-class steamers than I could to remain at Washington. A great number of my constituents had desired me to meet them at Buffalo, to assist in the formation of a political party which should direct the Cambria, of the Liverpool line; and the United States, of the Havre line, from New Orleans. The Southerner, of the Cherokee, the Cambria of the Havre line, from New Orleans. the Charleston line, sailed in the afternoon of the same day In the course of another year we shall have such an abus dance of sea-going steamers that their arrival and departure will cause no more remark than the sailing of our fleet of packets or the regular steamers for Boston and Albany.

> FROM St. JOHN'S, (N. B.)-The St. John's Courier of the 19th contains a notice from the sheriff's office that the whole of the city property, lands, islands, jail, orphan asylum, market-house, Mayor's office, engine-house, and every thing else held by the city, will be sold on Saturday next, to satisfy an execution issued out of the Supreme Court by certain creditors, to whom all this property had been mortgaged for about

About five hundred dollars were raised by voluntary con About five hundred dollars were raised by voluntary contribution by the Whigs of Rochester, and expended in purchasing and cooking four hundred chicken pies, five hundred and fifty mince pies, five hundred and fifty large loaves of bread, forty or fifty barrels of apples, one hundred and fifty turkeys, geese, and chickens, besides a necessary supply of biscuits, cakes, &c. They were distributed to about five hundred and fifty families at their houses on Thanksgiving Day. The Ladies' Charitable Society, which has been in existence over thirty years, have divided the city into about forty districts, and have appointed a visiter in every district to inquire into and relieve the necessities of the sick and destitute. These ladies, with characteristic benevolence, volunteered to superladies, with characteristic benevolence, volunteered to super-intend the distribution of the dinner to the families in perintend the distribution of the dinner to the families in per-son. This was nobly done by Whig contributors and their better halves, who acted themselves and distributed their chari-ties as if there had been no political distinctions. [New York Express.

[New York Express.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

FROM THE NORFOLK HERALD. The following is a statement which we have corrected up to the present time of the United States vessels belonging to the different squadrons. The Home squadron extends the whole length of the coast of the United States; the Pacific squadron from Cape Horn to the mouth of the Columbia river; the Mediterranean squadron throughout the Mediterranean sea; the Brazil squadron along the east coast of South America; the African squadron along the west coast of Africa and the adjacent islands; and the East India squadron extends along the eastern coast of Asia and Africa.

The Home Squadron consists of the frigate Raritan, now the flag-ship; sloops of war Albany, Germantown, and Saratoga; war steamers Mississippi, Iris, and Waterwitch. The Pacific Squadron consists of the ship-of-the-line

Ohio, the flag ship; ship-of the-line razeed Independence, frigate Congress, sloops-of-war St. Mary's, Warren, Dale, and Preble, and the store-ships Lexington, Southampton, and Fredonia. The sloop Warren, we learn, has been condemned as unseaworthy, and is employed as a store-ship in Monte-

The Mediterranean Squadron consists of the frigate United States, the flag-ship; the war steamer Princeton, schr. Taney, and store-ship Supply.

The Brazil Squadron consists of the frigate Brandywine, the flag-ship; sloop of-war St. Louis, war steamer Alleghany, brig Perry, and store-ship Relief.

The African Squadron consists of the frigate Jamestow the flag-ship; sloops-of-war Decatur, Portsmouth, and Yorktown; brigs Boxer, Porpoise, and Bainbridge, and store ship Erie.

The East India Squadron consists of the sloop-of-war Plymouth, the flag-ship, and brig Dolphin. In the Baltic and North Sea frigate St. Lawrence.

It is expected that the United States frigate Savannah wil

out as flag-ship for the East India squadron. At the Navy Yard near Norfolk the following works ar progress : The building of the first-class steamer Pocahonas, the hull of which is already far advanced towards completion, and, when finished, will present one of the most adnirable specimens of naval architecture ever beheld; the engthening and thorough repairing of the sloop-of-war Vandalia; the complete overhauling and repairing of the steamer Mississippi, and the fitting out of the frigate Raritan as the flag-ship of the home squadron, (Com. J. Wilkinson.) This latter vessel is ready for duty with the exception of a poop-deck,

The New York Sun says, there are about four hundred and fifty men at work in the navy yard at Brooklyn, and considerable activity prevails in every department.

which is rapidly progressing for the accommodation of the

The United States frigate Savannah is now ready for sea but the officers and crew are not yet appointed. It is reported that Commander Buchanan, an able officer, will be selected for her; but this is unlikely, as she is entitled to a full

The United States frigate Cumberland has been hauled int the dock, and is now being dismantled. The store-ship Electra is to be sold at auction on the 6th of December. The store-ship Fredonia is taking in her cargo with all possible alacrity, and is expected to sail during next week for Cali-

All the vessels of the coast survey, under Lieutenant Bache, Porter, and Patterson, have been laid up for the winter at Gum block, and the sloop-of-war Vincennes has been hauled up on the launching slip for thorough repairs.

The workmen on the dry-dock have taken advantage of the late fine weather and are pushing it rapidly forward. The United States war steamer San Jacinto is now only waiting for her machinery. Materials are being prepared for erecting a number of new workshops and storehouses. It is reported that Com. Chas. Morris is to take charge of the Boston navy yard, and relieve Com. Foxhall A. Parker.

METEOROLOGICAL.

At the last session of Congress an appropriation of two thousand dollars was made for meteorological observations, to be made under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy. By the following Circular it will be seen what arrangements have been made with regard to the subject:

WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 1, 1848. The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, at their last meeting, resolved to establish an extended system of meteoroterprise, but co-operate with it, the Secretary of the Navy has directed Professor Espr to join his labors to those of the Secretary of the Institution.

As a preliminary step, it is important to ascertain the number and locality of the persons who will assist in this enterprise, and what available instruments are now in the country. For this purpose those who are disposed to join in these observations are respectfully requested to signify their willingness to do so by a line addressed to the Navy Department, with the word "Meteorology" written on the envelope.

Though it would be of great importance that each observer should be provided with a perfect set of compared instruments. vet it is believed that much valuable information relative to the sained even without instruments, from a mere record of the face of the sky, the direction and force of the wind, and the free of expense, will be sent to those who are disposed to join in the observations ; and, as soon as the amount of funds for this purpose is sufficient, full sets of instruments will be furnished to careful observers in important localities.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

JOSEPH HENRY, Secretary Smithsonian Institution.

JAMES P. ESPY. Meteorologist under the direction of the Sec'y of Navy.

In connexion with the above-Circular, it may be mentioned that six sets of meteorological instruments, including barometers, thermometers, &c., were sent from the Smithsonian Institution yesterday, to be forwarded to the coast of Oregon and California, for the purpose of establishing a series of meteorological observations on the western side of the Rocky mountains. It is believed that, from observations in this locality, in connexion with those to be made in the eastern and middle part of the United States, interesting meteorological facts can be obtained relative to atmospherical disturbances over the continent of North America.

GEORGE BELTZHOOVER, extensively known among the great travelling community, for many years, as the proprietor of the Fountain Inn, in the city of Baltimore, died at his residence near that city, on Saturday, in the seventy-fifth year

In New Orleans, on the 17th, was tried a suit instituted by R. C. Matthewson against Col. H. Wilson. Mr. M. published in Vera Cruz, whilst our army was in possession of that city, and Col. W. Governor of it, a paper called the Genius of Liberty. Certain articles were published which caused Col. W. to arrest Mr. M. and send him out of the country. on the ground that the articles were libellous and tended to excite disaffection, &cc. Judge Buchanan, of New Orleans, after hearing the case, decided in favor of Col. Wilson, thus approving his course, and adjudged Mr. M. to pay the costs Mr. M. had laid his damages at \$19,000.

NAVY YARD AT NEW ORLEANS .- The New Orleans "Crescent" says that the United States Government has pur chased a lot of ground on the other side of the river, about half a mile below the foundry at Algiers, for a navy yard. The lot has four hundred feet front on the river, contains ten

The St. Louis Republican of the 16th instant says that The St. Louis Republican of the 16th instant says that Messrs. Sigersons are packing at their establishment in that it is to be delivered immediately. This is the first contract of the kind in that section of the country. There are also very large quantities putting up there for the English market. At the packing establishment of Messrs. Clarkson & Morgan alone not let than twenty-five thousand hogs will be cut at their blocks. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

From Cist's Cincinnati Advertiser and Niles's Register we gather some interesting statistics of the number of electoral votes cast for each President. Originally two persons were voted for-the highest effected a change in the Constitution.

In 1789. Ten States were entitled to 73 votes. George "Bounty Land" act of Congress of February 11, 1847. Washington received 79, which were all the votes cast, as some of the States were not represented in full. John Adams was chosen Vice President.

George Washington received 132, all the votes cast. John scurity (to me) is in the concluding words of that part (L Adams again Vice President.

In 1796, Sixteen States were entitled to 138 votes, of which John Adams received 71, and Thomas Jefferson was chosen Vice President

In 1800. Sixteen States were entitled to 188 votes, which Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr received each 73. No choice by the people. The House of Representatives. after ballotting six days, on the thirty-sixth ballot elected Thomas Jefferson President and Aaron Burr Vice President. In 1804. Seventeen States were entitled to 176 votes, of which Thomas Jefferson received 162. George Clinton Vice

In 1808. Seventeen States and 176 votes. James Madison received 122 votes, and was chosen President; George Clinton Vice President. George Clinton had received electoral votes at every election since the organization of the Govern-

In 1812. Eighteen States and 218 votes. James Madison eceived 128 as President, and Elbridge Gerry 131 as Vice

In 1816. Nineteen States and 221 votes, of which James Monroe received 183. D. D. Tompkins Vice President. In 1820. Twenty-four States and 232 votes. James Mon-

oe received 231. D. D. Tompkins Vice President. From 1804 to 1820 the successful candidates had been noninated by a caucus of the Democratic party in Congress. Since that time(1820) all parties have nominated in National

In 1824. Twenty-four States and 261 votes. Andrew

In 1828. Same States and 261 votes. Jackson received 178, a majority over Adams of 95 electoral votes. Calhoun Vice President. In 1832. Twenty-five States and 288 votes. Jackson re-

ceived 219, a majority of 170 over Clay. Martin Van Buren Vice President. In 1836. Twenty-six States and 294 votes. M. Van Buren

received 170, a majority of 97 over Wm. H. Harrison. R. M. Johnson Vice President. In 1840. Twenty-six States and 294 votes, of which Gen.

Harrison received 234, a majority of 174 over Van Buren. John Tyler Vice President. In 1844. Twenty-six States and 275 votes, of which Jas. K. Polk received 170, a majority over Mr. Clay of 64. G. M. Dallas Vice President.

INCREASE OF VOTES. The popular vote since 1828 for President has been as follows:

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

An article in the last number of the London Quarterly Review contains an interesting recapitulation of recent discoveries bearing upon the science of physical geography, together with many curious and wonderful facts deduced from these discoveries, relative to the history of the earth, and to the various forms of organic existence of which at different periods it has been the habitation. We speak of these discoveries as recent; for the most important of them, on which is founded the science of fossil remains, dates no further back than the time of Guvier, who declared the silence of these speechlese oracles to be eloquent of truth, revealing events far antecedent to the date of human existence—a secret never fathorned by the wisest men of the East, and which the scope of Grecian and Roman learning was not broad enough to comprehend. In their times, as in ours, the tablets of stone on which are logical observations, particularly with reference to American storms, embracing as far as possible the surface of this continent. In order that the meteorological observations ordered by nent. In order that the meteorological observations ordered by Congress at their last session may not interfere with this en-

Books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, And good in every thing.'

of existence, organized or inorganic. "Earth, air, and ocean, with every thing of animal and vegetable life tenanting these great domains, come within the scope and constitute the science f physical geography." The reviewer defines it to be "the his- missioner of Pensions. lory of the earth in its whole material organization-of its figure and other conditions as a planetary body; of the composi-tion, structure, and elevation of the continents and islands which comprise its solid superficies; of the extent, depth, idal, and other movements of the oceans and saas forming its liquid covering; of the rivers and lakes which give circulation velocity, the duration, and the extent of storms may be obwhich envelopes it, and ministers so largely to all natural phe-nomena; of the great physical elements of light, heat, and electricity, in as far as they affect the conditions of matter on beginning and ending of rain and snow, provided the observations are of sufficient extent and duration. Blank forms,

the globe; and, finally, of the innumerable forms of organic
vations are of sufficient extent and duration. Blank forms,

To explore so wide a field the labors of many minds and of

(now Colonel) BLISS, and signed by Gen. TAXLOR. The organized with the sole object of prosecuting separate branches of natural knowledge which to the mass of mankind appear utterly insignificant; and individuals devote their lives to researches whose objects seem so trivial as almost to provoke derision. But to the exact knowledge obtained by such minute and laborious investigations the science of physical geography owes its completeness, and, however much we may smile at the "zeal of M. Robineau in gathering up one thou-

One of the most interesting discoveries of modern research, s the fact demonstrated by Lyell, Darwin, and others, of the slow and continuous upheaving or depression of large tracts of land in different parts of the world, resulting from the progress of subterranean changes. Between the latitude of the North Cape, and of a line drawn through Southern Sweden from the Baltic to the Cattegat, the land is gradually rising at the average rate of about four feet in a century; while below that southern limit there is a slow subsidence and gradual approxi-mation of the surface of the land towards the level of the adjacent seas. From this and similar phenomena occurring elsewhere, in South America, and the coral formations of the Indian and Pacific Oceans, these geologists incline to ascribe to such gradual changes those great aspects of the earth's surface which others attribute to the earthquake, the torrent, and the volcano. Mr. Lyell refers the alterations of climate in particular regions, at successive periods, to these changes, and shows how the elevation of the land above the sea between the tropics raises the mean temperature, and in higher lati tudes depresses it , and hence accounts for those changes in the nature and conditions of organic life, which are demonto have occurred after the lapse of long intervals in the same district of country. Before the formation of the tertiary strata of the earth's surface, our northern hemisphere enjoye a trophical climate, and possessed the corresponding forms of animal and vegetable life. But a general upheaving of the land gradually produced the aspect which now it wears, and with a change of climate brought about a change in the forms of organic life. These discoveries beautifully illustrate the intimate connexion of the physical sciences. We have only space left to notice the curious

which the recent discoveries bearing on the science of Physical Geography have suggested to philosophical inquiry. They cannot be more intelligently expressed than in the language of the Reviewer : viz. " whether there be any such abse ture of species as to preclude the possibility of an unbroken succession, by generation of organic life, from its earliest ap-pearance on the earth to the present moment, admitting unearance on the earth to the present moment, admitting imited time, and altered conditions of the surface, as the ments and causes of progressive change? or, dismissing this doctrine, whether there be any true ascending scale of perfection in successive creations, and evidence of higher and more consummate organization of living beings, as we rise upwards in the fossiliferous strata, and bring the series to the types and forms which now exist around us '''. An affirmative answer impels the mind to the anticipation of future changes and advancement in the form and conditions of animal life, in infinite progression.—Journal of Commerce. TO THE EDITORS.

SOUTH GIBSON, GIBSON Co., (TEN.) Nov. 9, 1848. GENTLEMEN: Believing that you take some interest in the affairs of the Government of this Union and feel interested in the welfare of your fellow-citizens, I venture to address you in vote being thereby made President, and the next upon a subject in which I with hundreds of others am much highest Vice President. But the difficulty which concerned; a subject on which I have hitherto failed to resprang from the equal vote of Jefferson and Burr ceive satisfactory information, after application to every source from which I could expect to derive it. That subject is the

I have read the act as published in the country journals and have failed to understand its provisions plainly. The copies I have seen must have been loosely made up, or the In 1792. Fifteen States were entitled to 135 votes, of which act itself must have been very carelessly written. The obhave no copy before me) relative to the rule of heirship, in which it is stated that the bounty shall fall, "first, to the wife; second, the children; third, the father; fourth, the mother, &cc." of any deceased volunteer. The "et cetera" appeared to me to include collateral heirs; and I find this was the opinion of many other persons. I afterwards saw a copy of Regulations and Instructions issued from the Pension Department, in which it is expressly declared "no brother or sister can claim the bounty under the act."

But what was my surprise on seeing in a late number of the Washington Union (I forget the date) a lengthy course of instructions to persons interested in the bounty, in which (I do not mistake, I think) it is plainly asserted brothers and sisters of deceased soldiers can and may receive the bounty land or scrip.

I have inquired of lawyers and other knowing ones, and have been unable to learn the truth. Men's opinions are widely variant. I would have written to the Commission of Pensions, but could not expect an early reply.

My object in addressing you is simply that all who are inerested like myself may, through the medium of the press, have a plain and positive explanation of the law on this particular point. Surely some one must know whether Con gress intended to include collateral heirs or not. If so, i should be widely known; if not, the knowledge of the fact will save much trouble. But it is surely doing great injustice to exclude such, as myself and many other brothers of deceased volunteers have sustained immense losses by the death of our volunteer brothers. I am very poor, and have lost by fackson received 99 for President, and John Q. Adams 84 my brother's death nearly a thousand dollars; and I think s the Whig candidate. John C. Calhoun, Vice President, the Government ought, in sheer justice, to make some provision, or at least extend that already made to those who

The foregoing letter having appeared in the Daily National Intelligencer of Tuesday last the following and the first Congress that sat under the constitution, that the reply to it was received from the Commissioner of Federal Government has power to legislate on this subject in Pensions: PENSION OFFICE, NOVEMBER 28, 1848.

GENTLEMEN: In your paper of this morning I notice communication from one of your correspondents in Gibson, Tennessee, which requires a reply. The writer says: " would have written to the Commissioner of Pensions, but could not expect an early reply." It is proper that the pubic should know that letters are promptly answered at this office. Our answers to correspondents are brief, but explicit; and all who desire information from us may rest assured that enable them to prepare papers in support of claims to land or pensions. In the examination of claims some delay is unavoidable, for reasons which have already been made known through the medium of the press.

The 9th section of the act of the 11th February, 1847, does not allow land to collateral relatives of the deceased soldier, as will be discovered by an examination of that law. But the first section of the act of May 27, 1848, explanatory act of 1847 to brothers and sisters, in case the soldier left neither widow, child, father, nor mother.

The regulations to which your correspondent alludes, which declare that no brother or sister can claim bounty land under

The statement in the Washington Union to which the writer refers was correct in all respects as to heirship. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. L. EDWARDS.

Messis. Gales & SEATON.

NOTE, BY THE EDITORS.

give early replies to individual letters asking expla-Physical geography is the most comprehensive of all the least entered a caveat in his favor. There is no on his route to Department No. 8. the discharge of his proper duties than the Com-

THE FIELD OF BUENA VISTA.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS BULLETIN OF NOV. 21. We recently had exhibited to us the original of the celebrated letter from Gen. TAYLOR to SANTA ANNA, written on Paso, be put en route for that post. the field of Buena Vista, in reply to the summons of SANTA

Anna to surrender with his army. This document is in the form of a note, being on a folder many hands are requisite; and numerous societies have been writing is very legible, and is in the regular open hand of Col. Bliss, and with the strongly marked signature of General TAYLOR. There is nothing either in the note or the signature that indicates haste; but, on the contrary, judging from the general appearance of it, we should say that both the writer and the signer of it were "as calm as a summer's morning" when it was prepared.

As Col. Burss was in the city at the time we saw this note earth. Gen. TAYLOR dictating the tenor of it, and that the titled to it. latter did not sign it, as reported, on horseback, but that he was standing by the side of his horse, (Old Whitey,) and laid the paper on the saddle, and signed it there with the same that the soldiers who had acted as his escort were the murpencil with which he (Col. Barss) wrote it.

The gentleman, who brought this document from Mexic came passenger in the steamer from Vera Cruz with Mr. CLIFronp, our Minister. He obtained it in the city of Mexico, Though the letter is familiar to all our readers, we give the

following verbatim copy from the original: "HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, " Near Buena Vista, February 22, 1848. "Sta : In reply to your note of this date, summoning me

surrender my forces at discretion, I beg leave to say that ecline acceding to your request.
"With high respect, I am, sir, your obedient servant, "Z. TAYLOR. " Major General U. S. A. Commanding.

"To Senor D. ANTO. LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, "Commanding in chief, Encantada."

ASTRONOMICAL INTELLIGENCE .- Among the appropria-

tions made by Congress during its last session was one for a made by Lieut. J. M. Gilliss, of the United States navy, in from which, with the required angles, may be calculated the distance of the sun and planets. The necessary instruments for prosecuting the labor assigned to Lieut. Gilliss (who is now in this city) are in course of preparation. They will probably cost not much less than five thousand dollars, and as oon as completed the Lieutenant will start upon his scientific pilgrimage. It is gratifying to notice that our Government, by such appropriations as the one alluded to, is vindicating its character in regard to the advancement of science.

THADDEUS STEVENS.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer : GENTLEMEN : Perceiving in the Baltimore Sun, New York Journal of Commerce, and other papers, of recent date, certain statements relative to Mr. STEVESS, which, if not corrected, are calculated to mislead the Public mind in regard to the views and purposes of this distinguished gentleman upon a question of national interest and importance, I request permission, in sheer justice to him, once for all, to set the matter right before the country through the columns of the National Intelligencer. From the Washington Union, Pennsylvanian, New York Evening Post, and other "Democratic" presses, justice to Mr. STEVENS is scarcely to be expected. Never was man more maligned than he by his political opponents, and the work of detraction will doubtless be diligently pursued by those seemingly as fond of as familiar with it; but from the professedly neutral press more fairness is to be looked for a in the present instance, it is trusted, not in vain.

Mr. STEVENS is charged with being "an abolitionist." This is simply not the fact. The same charge was made against him while he was a candidate for election to Congress. In the course of that canvass, the editor of the Lancaster Intelligencer, a leading " Democratic" journal of Pennsylvania, went so far as to say . "Mr. Stevens is the sworn foe of the South-an abolitionist; willing not only to exclude slavery from newly-acquired territory, but, what is infinitely worse, ' interfere with its existence where the constitution has alrea-'dy planted it." No sooner had this article appeared in print than it was authoritatively contradicted in the Union and Tribune, a Lancaster Whig paper, whose editor distinctly and emphatically stated that "Mr. Stevens was not an abolitionist : not the sworn foe of the South : did not wish to interfere with slavery where the constitution had already plant-

More recently it has been repeatedly asserted that "Mr. Stevens is pledged to introduce a bill on the first day of the thirty-first Congress to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia." In regard to this statement, also, the Whig paper referred to positively contradicts it, and pointedly adds that Mr. Stevens goes to Congress as the representative of the people of this district, unembarrassed by promises or pledges of any kind, and perfectly free to take such a stand in reference to slavery in the District of Columbia, and all the other leading questions of the day, as his own judgment may approve, and the interests of the whole country may seem to require."

Mr. STEVENS, it is gathered from his own speeches and recorded declarations, stands by all the compromises of the constitution, but is opposed to the further extension of the area of slavery. He believes, with WASHINGTON and JEFFERSON, the Territories, and that the principles of the ordinance of 1787 ought to be extended over all the Territories recently acquired.

"If this be treason, make the most of it !" He holds these doctrines in common with all eminent Whigs of the free States; no more and no less. This communication is written to serve no ulterior purpose,

but simply to save from further perversion and set forth accurately the views and purposes, in reference to the grave question under consideration, of a distinguished and patriotic they need not wait an unreasonable time for information to WHIG, whose best efforts have for a long series of years been consistently and efficiently directed to the establishment and maintenance of Whig principles. To him as much as any other man is due the credit of the recent glorious political triumph achieved in Pennsylvania. Long before his nomination for Congress he took the field for TAYLOR and FILLMORE, allowing bounty land or scrip, at the option of the clamant, in which he, with Gov. Jourston and other kindred spirits, continued his labors until after the seventh of November. To vindicate him at home were a work of supererogation. His nomination for Congress-hailed at the time by the whole of the act of February 11, 1847, extends the provisions of the Whig press of Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, and other States-was ratified by his noble constituency, the veteran 'Old Guard" of Lancaster county, by the unprecedented majority of four thousand one hundred-a fair index to his present popularity throughout the State. Abroad, where he the act, were published before the amendatory act of May, is less intimately known, it becomes necessary to correct misrepresentations concerning him.

A PENNSYLVANIAN.

ARMY ORDERS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, GENERAL ORDERS, ? ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE. Washington, Nov. 7, 1848.

1. Brigadier General D. E. Twisos, Major General by Had we supposed that our correspondent, in sta- Brevet, is assigned to the command of the 6th Military Dewrittes the history of the living forms that successively tenant- ting his reason for addressing his request to us, in- partment. He will, without delay, repair to St. Louis and

ments, according to his brevet of Brigadier General. He will report by letter to Major General Tarton, commanding the nations of statutory enactments, we should have at Western Division, and also report in person to that General

ranches of science, for it embraces all matter, in all its forms officer in the Government, we are persuaded, who 3. The 8th regiment of infantry will immediately repair to more assiduously and faithfully devotes himself to Texas, via New Orleans, where the commanding officer will teceive further instructions from Major General Tarnoz.

4. The 3d regiment of infantry is assigned to duty in Department No. 9. The four companies now at New Orleans barracks, will repair to Jefferson barracks, and there receive the further orders of Major General TAYLOR. The six companies of the regiment now in Texas will, as soon as the necessary reconnoissance can be made in the direction of El

5. Companies B and D 2d artillery, under orders for Department No. 9, will immediately be put en route for Jefferson barracks, there to receive the further instructions of Major General TATLOR. By order.

L. THOMAS, Assistant Adj. General.

MOST AWFUL MURDER AND ROBBERT.-The St. Joseph Gazette of the 10th instent announces the startling intelligence that just as that paper was going to press they had received information that Major Stroug, Paymaster in the United States army, had a few days previous been murdered and robbed in Saline county, Missouri. Major Singer's Wife and her Sister were in company with him, both of whom are likesand species of the genus musca in the single department of the Yonne," the indefatigable spider-collector will be mentioned with honor in the annals of science as the "illustrious which it was written. He told us that he wrote it on the top which he was proceeding to the upper part of this State to pay wise said to have shared the same fate. The Major had in of his foraging cap, placed on his knee, sitting on a bank of the three months' extra pay to those volunteers that were en-

The Gazette says that no ciue thus far had been discovered as to who perpetrated the foul deed, other than a supposition

Major Struck was married but a short time since, and this sudden termination of his own as well as his wife's and her sister's existence, in the bloom of life and in the midst of health. will cast a deep gloom over a large circle of bereaved relatives

THE TWO EXTREMES .- A Havre paper states that there had recently arrived in that city a party of thirty-five Trappist monks from La Meillerie. These persons were to take passage on board the Brunswick, which sailed the 1st of November for the United States, where they had been summoned by M. Flagel, Apostolic Vicar, to form agricultural establishments and clear up in Kentucky an immense virgin forest. They take with them farming tools in very great quantity.

By a singular coincidence, the Brunswick also was to take out a detachment of seventy-six fearian Communists, who were parading the streets of Havre in procession, their patriarch at their head. The simultaneous presence of two so different sects in the same ship has raised some difficulty. According series of observations for determining the parallax of the Sun to the rules of their order, as it is known, the Trappists are not and Planets; or, in other words, their distances from the allowed to have any intercourse with the fairest portion of earth, by a new process. One set of observations is to be creation; but the Icarian detachment counts in its ranks a certain number of women. To calm the scruples of the rev-Chili; while corresponding observations are to be made at erend brothers, it is intended to separate, by means of a parthe Northern Astronomical Observatories of this country and tition, the between decks into two distinct apartments. The Europe. The difference of latitude between the observations | Communists will be behind, the Trappists forward. It is said made north and south of the equator will furnish a base line that the Icarian colony at Texas has just decided that the capital town of their establishment will take the name of Cabetville, in memory of the author of Icaria, after the example of Rome in former times, where, by an analogous measure, the name of its founder, Romulus was perpetuated .- Paris paper.

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION. - The steamboat Monedo exploded on the Arkansas river on the 15th, eight miles below Lit-tle Rock. One deck hand was killed and four or five deck hands were badly scalded. The captain and clerk escaped unburt. The cargo was saved.

napolis harbor, a fine building, with forty-seven feet elevation for the light, has been finished, and is now ready for use.